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# Thirsk Rural District Council

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Annual Report  
of the  
Medical Officer of Health  
and  
Public Health Inspector  
for the year  
1963





THIRSK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN:

Lt. Col. M. C. W. P. Consett, J.P.  
(Ex-officio Member of Health Committee)

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

A. H. Gill  
(Chairman of Health Committee)

COUNCILLORS:

J. Armstrong (F):	C. J. Megson (PH):
W. F. Barton (F):	J. W. Ormston (F):
Major P. Bell, J.P. (H):	J. Parlour (H):
T. Bilton (PH):	G. W. Peacock (PH):
A. Bosomworth (H:F):	M. Peckitt (H):
B. Bosomworth (PH):	W. K. Pickering (PH):
J. R. Bumby (H:F):	G. Reed (H:PH):
T. E. Clarke (PH:F):	H. V. Rutherford (PH:F):
F. A. V. Cook (F):	M. Sanderson (PH):
J. C. Dickinson (PH):	J. W. Stirke (H):
P. Fletcher (H:PH):	W. B. Stonehouse (PH):
J. D. Gill (PH):	W. Strickland (PH:F):
L. M. Greensit (F):	S. F. J. Till (H):
Rev. D. J. Hill, M.A. (H:F):	H. E. Toothill (F):
T. M. Jopling (PH):	G. C. Turton (PH):
Mrs. C. E. Kenworthy (H):	Brig. J. F. Walker, J.P. (PH:F):
Miss V. J. Maynard, J.P. (H:PH):	R. H. Willis (H):

(H indicates Member of Housing Committee; PH indicates Member of Public Health Committee; F indicates Member of Finance and General Purposes Committee)

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL:

W. A. Wilkinson

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

H. Gray, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

R. M. Sharphouse, M.A.P.H.I., A.I. Hsg.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

M. D. Hey, M.A.P.H.I., (Dip. Meat and Other Foods)

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1963

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To: the Chairman and Members of Thirsk Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to present for your consideration my Annual Report for the year.

It is pleasing to record that the statistics in the following pages show an improvement over previous years. In particular our infant deaths have fallen to reasonable numbers, being marginally below those for England and Wales for the first time for several years. Even so these deaths were not all inevitable.

One always is careful to point out the difficulties associated with statistics where only small populations or numbers are involved. Incorporated in my report is a graph showing the increase in deaths from lung cancer based on the large population of the whole Bulmer Area, some 60,000 people. This has the effect of ironing out irregularities which occur in the individual rural districts and show that the trend experienced by the whole country is certainly experienced in this rural area where atmospheric pollution is at a minimum.

Good progress is being maintained in provision of houses and the institution of a points scheme for allocating these has in my opinion been a worthwhile exercise in securing fairness in letting which is appreciated by those still awaiting patiently an improvement in their accommodation.

Further trouble with contamination of the water supply occurred during the summer and at the close of the year the prospect of a really efficient system of purification becoming operative was being realised. Further considerable capital expenditure will be needed before the Boltby reservoir can be safely used, ensuring an adequate supply during a dry summer.

The Council continues to make progress with the provision of proper treatment of sewage throughout the area but a great deal of work requires to be done both in this field and in housing before the term "affluent society" can justly be applied to the area.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GRAY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

Area of district .. .. .. ..	71,650 acres
Estimated population Mid 1963 .. ..	13,960
Number of Houses - Privately owned ..	4,026
- Council .. .. ..	715
- Crown Property .. ..	318
Rateable Value .. .. .. ..	£331,242
Product of a Penny Rate. .. .. ..	£1,475

		<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Live births .. .. .. ..		270	260
Birth rate/1,000 population.. .. .. ..		19.9	18.6
Corrected birth rate .. .. .. ..		21.5	19.2
Illegitimate live births were 11 representing 3.8% of total live births.			
Stillbirths - 2. Rate/1,000 live and stillbirths -	7.6		
Total live and stillbirths .. .. .. ..	- 262		
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year) .. .. ..	- 5		
<u>Infant Mortality Rates</u>		<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Infant deaths/1,000 live births .. .. .. ..		29.6	19.2
Infant deaths (England and Wales). .. .. .. ..		21.4	20.9
Legitimate infant deaths/1,000 legitimate live births.	..	31.2	20.1
Illegitimate infant deaths/1,000 illegitimate live births..		Nil	Nil
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) .. .. .. ..		25.9	11.5
Early neonatal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) .. .. .. ..		22.2	3.8
Perinatal mortality rate (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	..	33.0	11.5
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)			
Number of deaths .. .. .. ..		Nil	Nil
Rate/1,000 live and stillbirths .. .. .. ..		Nil	Nil
<u>Deaths -</u>	Male	Female	Total
	70	71	141
		<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Crude death rate/1,000 population .. .. .. ..		11.0	10.1
Corrected death rate (Factor 1.05) .. .. .. ..		11.1	10.6
England and Wales .. .. .. ..		11.9	12.2

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THIRSK RURAL DISTRICT

	1962		1963	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic diseases	-	-	1	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and par. diseases	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm - stomach	-	2	2	2
11. " " - lung, bronchus	3	-	4	1
12. " " - breast	-	2	-	1
13. " " - uterus	-	1	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	3	6	8
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	3	1	-
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system	16	10	9	9
18. Coronary diseases, angina	22	15	14	15
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	2	1	2
20. Other heart diseases	7	15	8	14
21. Other circulatory diseases	6	1	4	1
22. Influenza	-	-	-	1
23. Pneumonia	4	-	6	6
24. Bronchitis	3	1	2	2
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system	-	1	-	-
26. Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum	1	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	-	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	1	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	2	1	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	12	2	3	4
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	1	-	2
34. All other accidents	1	2	5	-
35. Suicide	-	-	1	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-
TOTALS		88	62	70
				71

Infant Deaths

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause Registered</u>
F	2 weeks	Acute Meningitis
F	2 weeks	Congenital heart disease
M	5 months	Broncho-pneumonia. Congenital heart disease.
M	8 months	Asphyxia - accidental
F	5 minutes	Precipital labour

Notifiable Diseases

The following cases were notified:-

	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Pneumonia	8	5	12
Scarlet fever	Nil	1	1
Dysentery	Nil	Nil	Nil
Whooping cough	Nil	Nil	6
Food poisoning	1	Nil	1
Measles	195	70	85
Meningococcal infection	1	Nil	Nil
Pulmonary tuberculosis	3	1	1
Non-pulmonary tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	1
Ophthalmic neonatorum	1	Nil	Nil
Puerperal pyrexia	Nil	1	Nil
Paratyphoid fever	Nil	Nil	1

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BULMER AREA

The day to day administration of many of the health services of the County Council is the responsibility of your Medical Officer of Health, who holds appointments jointly with the four Rural District Councils and with the County Council. The central office dealing with these services is at Easingwold. It is the intention of the County Council to enlarge these offices thus enabling other departments and officers of the County Council to work under one roof. This should have the beneficial result of even closer co-operation between the various services than is enjoyed at present.

### Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory at Northallerton is used for examination of water, milk, ice-cream, and for specimens taken during the investigation of infectious diseases. A collecting run is made weekly from the laboratory which is invaluable in enabling water and other material to be collected and examined with the minimum of delay. I would like to express my appreciation of the help which Dr. Payne has given on many occasions during his stay at Northallerton.

### Ambulance Service

The two stations serving the area are at Haxby and Thirsk, both of which co-operate closely with stations in the adjoining areas of York and the West Riding. Radio control is extensively used. During the year both stations became due for renovation. In the case of Haxby, the station had outgrown its accommodation in a converted chapel and completely new premises are to be built. At Thirsk the ambulances were housed in a modern building, but staff accommodation left much to be desired. This is now remedied, and a first class station now exists there. An active welfare association of all County Council ambulance staff exists and there is an excellent team spirit amongst the personnel.

### Child Welfare

Clinics are held at 26 places in the area. At 13 of these the Mobile Clinic, with staff of doctor, nurse and driver/clerk attend; several of the remainder are held in premises, varying in standards, by the local general practitioners, and a few sessions are held by County Council doctors. Only one clinic, at Easingwold, is purpose-built, combined with the school, and serves as a school clinic also, but during 1963 two all-purpose County Council clinics were commenced, at Huntington and at Thirsk. There is a trend towards general practitioners having child welfare clinics in their own surgeries but this system is less well established than that in which the doctors are holding special ante and post-natal clinics.

There is virtually no ante-natal work done in County Council clinics in this area. Where a general practitioner is willing to hold special sessions in his surgery it is of course most desirable for the midwife to attend at the same time and one looks forward to an extension of this practice.

### District Nurses - Health Visiting

Where possible, especially in the more densely populated parts of the area health visiting is separated from other duties; in the more rural parts, nurses holding combined duties are employed. With the growth of population, particularly in the Flaxton Rural district, it becomes necessary continuously to review the establishment and nursing areas. A full time relief nurse is now appointed here to maintain the service during holidays and sickness, and avoids throwing an undue load on members of the staff. There is a need for a further health visitor in the Flaxton area where births increase each year.

There is a growing demand by general practitioners for a health visitor to be attached to each practice and so to work more closely with him. In the rural parts of the area this arrangement does virtually exist. In the more densely populated parts where nursing duties are separated it would be extremely difficult to arrange such a system. The number of practices exceeds the number of health visitors, and the doctors practices are, in the interests of freedom of choice of doctor, hopelessly overlapping geographically. It would seem that only if and when general practice is arranged from health centres will this arrangement come about.

Staff in post are as follows:-	Full time health visitors	-	5
	Generalised duties	-	10
	Home nurses/Midwives	-	7
	Relief and part time staff	-	6

All but two of these nurses have car transport, the two exceptions have auto cycles.

#### Vaccination and Immunisation

		1961	1962	1963
Bulmer Area - total population	.	58,290	60,270	61,130
No. of live births in area .. .. .. ..	.	1,044	1,146	1,209
No. of children vaccinated against smallpox (primary) .. .. .. .. ..	.	661	1,676	330
No. of children immunised against diphtheria (primary) .. .. .. .. ..	.	1,120	970	1,111
No. of children immunised against diphtheria (booster) .. .. .. .. ..	.	589	388	486
No. of children immunised against whooping cough	1,083	1,109	987	

During the year only nominal amounts of the Salk polio vaccine were used. The change over to oral vaccine being almost complete. 1,187 children completed vaccination with oral vaccine during the year, and in addition most school entrants were given a reinforcing dose. No case of polio was notified during the year, and there were no untoward effects from the use of this vaccine. The figures for diphtheria and whooping cough are very satisfactory, but the number receiving booster injections for diphtheria is less satisfactory even allowing for the fact that the number of 5 year olds is less than the current number of births. Vaccinations against smallpox shows a remarkable drop compared with 1962, part of this low figure is due to the number of children, including young babies vaccinated during the previous year, during the smallpox scare. The need for smallpox vaccination is easily forgotten until one or two cases are imported into the country when the tendency is for panic measures to be resorted to. Ambulance personnel are revaccinated annually, and one hopes the hospital authorities keep in mind the need for protecting staff. In spite of some opinion expressed against the need for routine vaccination of 1 year olds, on balance there is much to be said in its favour. As reported previously most children are now immunised against tetanus, but vaccination against tuberculosis is not done as a routine measure in the North Riding, except for contacts of known cases.

#### Welfare Foods

National Dried Milk, orange juice, cod liver oil and vitamin tablets continue to be supplied at clinics and by various shopkeepers in the area on a voluntary basis. Sales remain static but there is an increase in similar proprietary products at clinics, sold at special clinic rates.

### Domestic Help Service

This service continues to grow but is used far less in this area than is found to be the case generally.

			<u>1961</u>		<u>1962</u>		<u>1963</u>
Cases helped:-							
Maternity ..	..	..	..	..	16	20	19
Chronic sick, aged etc.	..	..	..	..	106	118	124
Others.	..	..	..	..	13	9	14
Hours worked	..	..	..	..	19,891	24,501	27,613

The average number of helps employed are equivalent to about  $13\frac{1}{2}$  full time employees.

### Chiropody

Regulations for the registration of chiropodists were made during 1963 and the result has been that the County Council can now employ directly such chiropodists who formerly could only carry out work through the Voluntary Care Committee. This latter body has therefore been disbanded and all its functions, including chiropody taken over by the Area Health Sub-Committee. Three part-time chiropodists are employed, giving a service which is greatly appreciated by our old people. Use will be made of the new clinics when available to carry on this work in good premises.

### Care and After Care

Nursing aids are supplied on request from the Area Office and the County Council have available special items of equipment such as Oxford Hoists. On the recommendation of the Chest Physician milk is supplied free to the dwindling number of patients with tuberculosis.

### Health Education

All members of nursing and medical staff play a part during their normal work, and it should not be forgotten that the Public Health Inspectors during their routine duties play a not inconsiderable role in this field. Much use is made of posters and leaflet material supplied by the Ministry and the Central Council for Health Education, and some formal lectures are undertaken by members of staff. Visual aids in the form of film and film strip projectors are used.

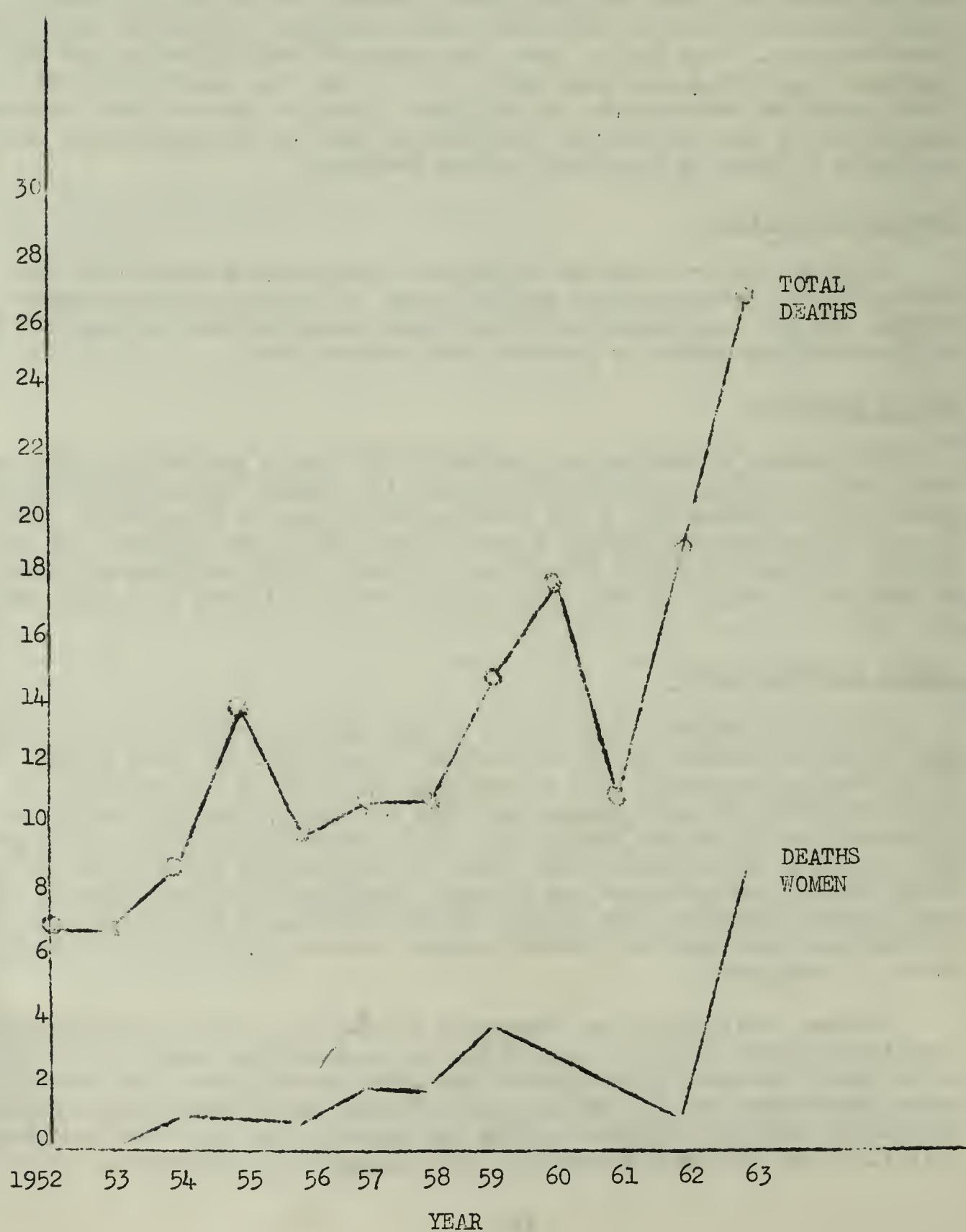
### County Welfare Service

Whilst not directly the concern of the Health Committee the work has many points of contact and close liaison is kept with the Area Welfare Officer. It is pleasing to record that a start has been made in the provision of a new County Home for aged persons at Haxby and further similar homes are projected for Thirsk and Easingwold. When completed they will enable our aged people to spend their later years in some comfort and not too far from their familiar surroundings and friends. This provision is augmented by the aged persons bungalows with warden service existing at Thirsk and will be further increased when the similar scheme, started in 1963, by the Easingwold R.D.C. is completed.

Problem families are not numerous in this area, but the few that we must inevitably expect and have account for an extraordinary amount of time spent by officials in every department of the local authorities. The results are often unrewarding and one can only hope in many cases that the succeeding generation will be an improvement on the present. On the other hand work in this field can at times produce the most unexpected good results.

### Cancer of the lung - Bulmer Area.

There is an annual increase in deaths from cancer of the lung the total for England and Wales being over 20,000 per year, many times higher than the total for road deaths. This same trend is demonstrated clearly when deaths from this disease for the whole Bulmer Area are drawn on the following graph. Whilst male deaths are in the majority the same trend can be seen in the case of females. The overwhelming evidence is that cigarette smoking is the most important cause of this change in disease pattern, with a minor role played by air pollution. Improved knowledge of medical science, its proper application together with improvement in social factors has contributed to the favourable trends in disease and mortality which is always so pleasing to outline in my annual reports. Cancer of the lung is a serious reversal of this pattern, but the remedy lies with the individual.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1963

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To: the Chairman and Members of Thirsk Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present a report on the work done by the Council in carrying out its duties as Public Health Authority during the year ending December, 1963.

The year has been one of considerable progress.

Two new major sewerage schemes were brought to an advanced stage, serving four villages, and a further large scheme was about to be put in hand at the year end.

A record number of houses were completed and further schemes prepared during the year should produce a steady flow of houses for some time.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. M. SHARPHOUSE,

Chief Public Health Inspector and  
Surveyor.

## WATER

The larger part of the area, including Thirsk township itself, is supplied by the Thirsk District Water Company. The southern end of the area is supplied from sources under the control of the Ryedale Joint Water Board. There are also some small villages in the area with 'parish' supplies, namely Howe, Upsall, Cowesby and Kepwick, which are controlled by private individuals but periodically tested to protect public Health.

The Water Company water is mixed 'upland surface' and spring supply, with a total hardness of 103 parts per million (moderately hard). The water supplied to the southern end of the district by the Ryedale Board is from an underground source and the hardness is 240 parts per million (hard).

Regular sampling is carried out by the Public Health Department, the specimens being submitted to the North Riding Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

On the 10th August serious contamination of the Thirsk and District Water Company supply came to light as a result of laboratory examination of routine samples, and emergency measures were forthwith taken to safeguard the public.

The source of pollution was traced to the Boltby supply, which was put out of use.

From the discovery of the pollution over 200 samples were collected by the department to the year end, each one being associated with a test for effectiveness of chlorination.

Dwellings and population served by water mains

Parish	Direct to houses		By Standpipes		Supplier
	Houses	Approx. popul.	Houses	Approx. popul.	
Ainderby Quernhow	21	81	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Bagby	86	240	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Balk	12	47	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Birdforth	9	37	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Boltby	45	130	-	-	T.D.W.C.
Carlton Miniott	179	522	1	4	T.D.W.C.
Catton	14	40	-	-	T.D.W.C.
Cowesby	25	63	-	-	Private
Dalton	83	271	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Ellenthorpe	9	39	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Eldmire-w-Crakehill	8	30	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Fawdington	4	15	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Felixkirk	26	88	-	-	T.D.W.C.
Holme	16	49	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Howe	10	48	-	-	Private
Humberton	12	38	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Hutton Sessay	26	68	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Kepwick	33	89	-	-	T.D.W.C.
Kilburn	77	218	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Kirby Hill	37	123	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Kirby Knowle	19	59	-	-	Private
Kirby Wiske	35	96	2	12	T.D.W.C.
Knayton-w-Brawith	96	285	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Langthorpe	127	398	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Maunby	48	121	-	-	T.D.W.C.
Milby	20	76	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Newby Wiske	49	152	-	-	T.D.W.C.
Newsham-w-					
Breckenbrough	28	89	4	16	T.D.W.C.
Norton-le-Clay	29	100	-	-	R.J.W.B.
North Kilvington	11	38	-	-	T.D.W.C.
Pickhill-w-Roxby	82	272	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Sandhutton	59	177	-	-	T.D.W.C.
Sessay	71	213	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Sinderby	30	80	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Skipton	22	72	1	4	T.D.W.C.
South Kilvington	71	184	-	-	T.D.W.C.
South Otterington	97	305	2	7	T.D.W.C.
Sowerby	847	2452	3	12	T.D.W.C.
Sutton-under-					
Whitestonecliffe	84	220	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Thirkleby	66	209	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Thirlby	22	62	-	-	T.D.W.C.
Thirsk	980	2980	3	12	T.D.W.C.
Thornbrough	1	4	-	-	T.D.W.C.
Thornton Bridge	14	53	-	-	R.J.W.B.
Thornton-le-Moor	95	297	-	-	T.D.W.C.
Thornton-le-Street	33	95	-	-	T.D.W.C.
Topcliffe	346	1181	-	-	T.D.W.C.
Upsall	24	91	-	-	Private
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(R.J.W.B. = Ryedale Joint Water Board)

(T.D.W.C. = Thirsk District Water Company)

## HOUSING

The first 62 Unity houses at Sutton Road were completed during the year, and the same Contractor carried on with the construction of the second phase, to provide a further 63 dwellings.

This second stage was modified to include for a larger proportion of bungalows (38) than originally planned, because of the obvious need for these dwellings in the area.

Investigation into the possibility of a 'district heating' scheme showed the cost to be prohibitive, so each bungalow was provided with a simplified form of 'central heating'.

Preparation work was done on various sites in the villages up to tender stage, as follows:-

Carlton Miniott - 26 houses; Dalton - 38 houses;

Sandhutton - 4 houses; Topcliffe - 10 bungalows.

The Piper Lane Clearance Order was confirmed after a Ministry of Housing Inquiry, and by the year end the occupants of the dwellings had been rehoused.

A Compulsory Purchase Order was made on an area of land in Sowerby, including two Clearance Areas of 12 houses.

The Order was made as a result of a re-development proposal for providing pensioners bungalows in a central position.

Though the Norby scheme some years ago was an ideal application of the principles of 'urban renewal' there are enumerable difficulties in this form of re-development, not the least being the high cost of 'grey lands' adjoining Clearance Areas.

Some 32 houses were represented as unfit and not capable of repair at reasonable expense, and in very few instances were undertakings submitted which would bring the houses concerned up to a reasonable standard.

Difficulty was experienced in securing the demolition of condemned houses, but it is understandable that an owner who is reluctant to invest money on repairing a house is equally unwilling to pay for its demolition.

Statement A with this section of the report shows the disposition of Council houses throughout the area, the type of houses, and the date of completion.

Statement B shows in tabular form the results of action taken in regard to unfit houses, and is compiled from the returns (Form P.13 (hsg.)) which is submitted quarterly to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Statement C shows the number of improvement grants approved, the Council allowing up to the maximum (£400) on Discretionary Grants schemes during the year.

Statement A

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Council Houses</u>					<u>Built</u>
	<u>Total</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>Bung.</u>	
Ainderby Quernhow	8	3	2 2	1		P.W. 51
Carlton Miniott	8		6	2		51
Dalton	12		9	3		55
Kilburn	4		3	1		49
Kirby Hill	8		6	2		50
Knayton	6		2 4			49 60
Langthorpe	24		10 4	6	4	P.W. 50 58
Newby Wiske	5	1	4			P.W.
Pickhill	6		5	1		53
Sandhutton	4		4			62
Sessay	4		3	1		53
South Kilvington	8		4 4			P.W. 61
South Otterington	8		2 4	2		P.W. 49
Sowerby	134	20 4	37 9 10 4	19 3 1 4	14	P.W. 46 52 52 53
Thirkleby	4		3	1		51
Thirsk	414	12 8 26 12 2 2 10 5	42 14 32 41 31 15 1 52	14 3 16 11 9 3 1 4	6 5 5 5 16 4 5 5 4	48 52 53 54 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63
Thornton-le-Moor	9		6 3			49 60
Topcliffe	46		8 6 2 3 10			P.W. 46 53 55
Total	712	111	414	121	66	

Statement B

A. Houses Demolished

In Clearance Area

- (1) Houses unfit for human habitation ..
- (2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. .. .. ..
- (3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957.. .. ..

Not in Clearance Areas

- (4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957 .. .. ..
- (5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health .. .. ..
- (6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts. .. .. .. ..
- (7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders .. .. .. .. ..

B. Unfit Houses Closed

- (8) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957 .. .. ..
- (9) Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957.. .. .. .. ..
- (10) Parts of Buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957.. ..

Houses Demolished	Displacements	
	Persons	Families
-	29	12
-	4	1
-	-	-
4	56	20
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-

C. Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied

- (11) After informal action by Local Authority.. .. .. .. ..
- (12) After formal notice under
  - (a) Public Health Acts .. .. ..
  - (b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957. .. .. .. ..
- (13) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957.

By Owner	By Local Authority
27	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Statement C

Discretionary (Improvement) Grants

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Number Approved	1	3	18	69	45	48
Amount of grant	£288	£602	£4,772	£15,586	£10,085	£10,974

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Number Approved	59	36	60	37	21	30
Amount of grant	£13,098	£8,097	£17,677	£9,601	£5,498	£7,458

Standard Grants

There were 26 applications approved for the provision of the following amenities compared with 25 in 1962:-

Internal Water Closets..	..	..	..	..	15
Baths ..	..	..	..	..	13
Wash-basins ..	..	..	..	..	14
Hot Water Systems..	..	..	..	..	13
Foodstores ..	..	..	..	..	2

## FOOD HYGIENE

The number of premises in this area concerned with the preparation, treatment or storage of food is as follows:-

Grocers shops..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45
Greengrocers ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Confectioners..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Bakehouses ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Wet fish shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Fried fish shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Butchers..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Cafes ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Licenced premises ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52
Slaughterhouses ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Ice-cream manufacturers..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Market stalls (approx.)..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Mobile shops (approx.) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Poultry processing factories..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

## FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Routine supervision of these premises was carried out as far as possible, the results of the inspections being as follows:-

Number of inspections made ..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Number of premises found not to comply..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Number of defects ..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Number remedied ..	..	..	..	..	..	4

## MEAT INSPECTION

The Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 came into force on 1st October and made it obligatory for every local authority to cause all animals slaughtered to be inspected according to a set procedure.

Whereas the Council had for all practical purposes previously undertaken a complete inspection service the new regulations necessitated attendance at slaughterhouses on Sundays and out of normal hours.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Deer
No. Slaughtered	567	1	2	1466	796	-	2
No. Inspected	567	1	2	1466	796	-	2

All diseases except  
Tuberculosis and  
Cysticerci:

Whole carcases condemned..	..	..	-	-	1	3	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned..	..	..	45	-	-	15	13	-	-
Percentage diseased other than Tuberculosis or Cysticerci ..	..	7.91	-	50.00	1.23	1.64	-	-	-

Tuberculosis only:

Whole carcases condemned..	..	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	..	..	1	-	-	-	6	-	-
Percentage affected with Tuberculosis ..	..	.18	-	-	-	.77	-	-	-

Cysticercosis: No evidence found

Weight of unsound meat voluntarily surrendered - 9 cwt. 32 lbs.

Weight of tinned foods voluntarily surrendered - 1 cwt. 93 lbs.

### ICE-CREAM

The Council has a duty to keep a register of premises manufacturing or selling ice-cream.

There is only one manufacturer in the area, where the ice-cream is produced by the 'hot-mix' method. Specimens of the product were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and found quite satisfactory.

There are also 37 vendors of pre-packed ice-cream.

### MILK

The milk supplied in the area is a bottled designated milk, chiefly produced outside the area and delivered daily by lorry to the respective dealers' premises, the empty bottles being returned for cleansing.

By virtue of the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is responsible for the licencing of producer/retailers and the North Riding County Council is the licencing authority for all other dealers in milk.

### RODENT CONTROL

A synopsis in tabular form of the inspections and treatments is given below:-

	Total	Type of Property			
		Local Authority	Houses	Business	Agricultural
Inspections	4515	268	2428	1085	734
Treatments:-					
Rats	153	23	40	43	47
Mice	28	-	9	12	7

Council properties, especially the refuse tip and main sewer network, were kept under strict supervision and given regular treatment.

## SEWERAGE

The Bagby sewerage scheme, started in 1962, progressed during the year, despite certain engineering difficulties. This particular village is increasing in size beyond what could have been foreseen when the scheme was designed, and it is hoped the works can cope with the quantity of sewage now likely.

An important scheme serving the villages of Pickhill, Sinderby, Ainderby Quernhow and Holme-on-Swale was put in hand and well advanced at the year end.

A tender of about £50,000 was accepted for a scheme for the Langthorpe, Kirby Hill area, and it is now possible to anticipate an end to the chronic fouling of the canal by raw sewage matter, which has been a long standing nuisance and cause of complaint.

The Dalton regional scheme continued to be bogged down by trade effluent problems.

It is my personal opinion that the laying of 6" sewers in the larger villages is a short-sighted policy, though engineering calculations may prove the adequacy of such pipes for the immediate need.

A larger pipe, though slightly more costly, is less liable to stoppage, facilitates connections, and could possibly be utilized in some future (admittedly distant) scheme for the water carriage of household refuse.

The present state as regards schemes in the various villages in the area is as follows:-

(a)	(b)	(c)
Schemes already provided	Existing facilities considered satisfactory for time being	Sewerage facilities required
Thirsk	Birdforth	+Ainderby Quernhow
Sowerby	Kepwick	+Bagby
Carlton Miniott	Thornton Bridge	Balk
Sandhutton	Upsall	Boltby
Kilvington	Thornton-le-Street	Cowesby
Catton		*Dalton
Howe		Felixkirk
Kirby Knowle		+Holme
		Hutton Sessay
		Kilburn
		+Kirby Hill
		*Kirby Wiske
		*Knayton
		+Langthorpe
		*Maunby
		*Newby Wiske
		Newsham
		*Norton-le-Clay
		+Pickhill
		*Sessay
		+Sinderby
		Skipton
		*South Otterington
		*Sutton-under-
		Whitestonecliffe
		*Thirkleby
		Thirlby
		*Thornton-le-Moor
		*Topcliffe

NOTE:

+ Villages where schemes are actually contracted for.

\* Villages where schemes are in an advanced state of preparation.

Approximate populations served:-

(a)	(b)	(c)
6,000	150	3,100

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Council continued to give a complete refuse collection service throughout its area, dustbins being emptied weekly, apart from at a few outlying properties, and ashpits and middens were dealt with monthly.

Disposal was by controlled tipping in a disused sandpit near Skipton Bridge.

The purchase during the year of a Drott excavator to replace the old Chaseside digger was an expense which has since been justified by improved tip control and making more tipping space available.

Something like 6,000 tons of household refuse are collected annually, apart from trade refuse collected separately, and the cost of collection and disposal is in the region of £3 per ton, including for labour, transport, administration, etc.

The Council's vehicles at the year end used mainly for refuse collection were as follows, an average of 16 drivers and loaders being employed on this work:-

- 2 Shelvoke and Drewry 'fore-and-aft' tippers
- 1 Dennis side-loader (10 cubic yards)
- 1 Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic
- 1 - 1,000 gallon 'Yorkshire' cesspool emptier (pails and septic tanks).

### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

No serious complaints of the condition of the toilets were received during the year, and it is a pleasure to report that very little damage or defacement took place.

The men's side of the conveniences is under the care of one of the Council's permanent employees, and the standard of cleanliness has been excellent.

Though plans had been made, and a contract undertaken, for the alterations to the mens conveniences as a result of Government instructions to remove the turnstile, the work had not been possible by the year end because of delay in delivery of compartment door locks.

Though coin receipts are not a reliable method of estimating the number of persons using the conveniences, they provide an interesting comparison with previous years:-

1959	-	160,738
1960	-	166,879
1961	-	174,320
1962	-	169,549
1963	-	109,443

### MORTUARY

The register shows that 22 bodies in all were accommodated during the twelve months.

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered common lodging houses in the area.

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Five applications for site licences were approved during the year.

These licences concerned six vans for residential purposes and 30 for holiday use.

It is hoped that the use of vans as permanent dwellings by families with young children will be discontinued once the house shortage is relieved.

## NUISANCES

No formal action had to be taken to deal with "statutory nuisances", and those which did occur were remedied as a result of informal approach or letter.

The fouling of town footpaths by pigeon droppings, continued to be a source of annoyance, and an abortive attempt was made to reduce the number of birds by the only means available, e.g. trapping. One feels however, that the fouling of footpaths by dogs is a much more serious nuisance, but in both instances presumably the health risk is slight.

The need for the Council to use its powers under the Public Health Act to deal with matters 'injurious to health' has declined in recent years, but I consider that some of the 'new industries' in the area may bring about renewed activity in this field of hygiene.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written notices	Prosecu- tions
i. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	27	3	-	-
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	43	7	1	-
iii. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	70	10	1	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ..	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors .. .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient ..	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.. ..	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes. .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .. .. ..	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	1	-	-	-

### Schedule of Factories



